

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FREETO 02231 201504Z

53

ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CU-04 /044 W

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R 201416Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3546

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

UNCLAS FREETOWN 2231

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: NA

SUBJECT: AFRICAN MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

1. WITH ASSISTANCE OF HERMAN SCHWEIZER, IRS TAX ADVISOR, USAID LIBERIA, EMBASSY IS PLANNING A TAX AUDIT TRAINING COURSE FOR GOSL TAX COMMISSION EMPLOYEES TO BE GIVEN IN FREETOWN IN NOVEMBER. THE COURSE HAS BEEN ELABORATED IN COOPERATION WITH MR. C.A.M. LEWIS, SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE TAX COMMISSIONER, AND IS BEING HELD AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE.

2. SL ANNUAL COUNTRY TRAINING PLAN FOR FY 77 INCLUDES TWO TAX TRAINING SESSIONS, OF WHICH THIS IS THE FIRST. NOVEMBER SESSION WOULD REQUIRE SERVICES OF TWO IRS INSTRUCTORS WHO COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE BY USAID LIBERIA FOR TRAINING SESSION. TOTAL COST OF FOUR WEEK ON-SITE TRAINING FOR SENIOR INSPECTORS AND SENIOR TAX OFFICERS IS ESTIMATED AT APPROXIMATELY \$13,000.

3. PURPOSE OF COURSE IS TO IMPROVE CAPABILITY OF ASSESSING OFFICERS TO DEAL WITH INCOME TAX RETURNS OF BUSINESSES AND BUSINESS MEN IN S.L

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A MAJOR SOURCE OF GOVERNMENT REVENUE NOW ONLY BEING PARTIALLY TAPPED. IN PRESENT S.L. FINANCIAL SITUATION INCREASED GOVERNMENT REVENUE FROM TAX COLLECTIONS IS OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE. GOSL ATTACHES HIGH PRIORITY TO IMPROVING TAX COLLECTION AND UP-GRADING CALIBRE OF TAX COMMISSION EMPLOYEES AND HAS ALREADY STARTED ITS OWN IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAM. TRAINING PROPOSED WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS PROGRAM.

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4. VICE PRESIDENT, CONCURRENTLY MINISTER OF FINANCE, HAS IN-

FORMED AMBASSADOR OF HIS CLOSE PERSONAL INTEREST IN PUTTING SOME RECOMMENDATIONS OF NEWMAN REPORT INTO EFFECT. NEWMAN REPORT RECOMMENDED TYPE OF TRAINING PLANNED.

5. AN ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP TRAINING COURSE IS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR LATER IN FY 77. TRAINING IS PLANNED AS A FORERUNNER TO A PROJECT TO BE PROPOSED FOR FY 78, WHICH WILL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF A HIGH LEVEL ADVISOR TO THE TAX COMMISSIONER. PARTICIPANT TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES FOR TAX COMMISSION OFFICIALS ON THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER AND UPPER INSPECTORATE LEVEL WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED.

6. GOSL INPUT WILL INCLUDE PROVIDING COUNTERPARTS, TRAINING SITE, TRAINING AIDS, DOCUMENTATION AND TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE COSTS OF PARTICIPANTS.

7. WILL SUBMIT PIO/P IF AID/W RESPONSE FAVORABLE.
SAMUELS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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